



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAMS

April 26, 2010

Carol Sylvester
Title IIA Specialist
Virginia Department of Education
James Monroe Building - 23rd Floor
101 N. 14th Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mrs. Sylvester:

On April 22, 2010, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) submitted a response to the monitoring report that resulted from a program review conducted by the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs office of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. The program office team reviewed your State's progress in meeting the highly qualified teacher provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and your State's administration of the ESEA Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program. Thank you for sending this response to the monitoring report.

This response satisfactorily addresses the findings identified in the monitoring report. The VDOE submitted to the Department a written plan with specific procedures, a timeline and corrective actions that the State will implement to ensure that all teachers hired for Title I positions are highly qualified. Furthermore, the State will insure that agreements on the use of Title II, Part A funds are in place for LEAs that have not met the requirements outlined in Section 2141(c) of the ESEA. Also, a list of LEAs in need of agreements was submitted to the Department. The Department will follow up with the VDOE to ensure that progress is being made on these issues and that all agreed upon deadlines are met.

During the State agency for higher education portion of the monitoring review, the program team determined that there were no findings and that all monitoring requirements had been met.

We commend your excellent work in responding to the concerns raised by the monitoring report. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to ensure that all teachers meet the highly qualified requirements and to help improve the delivery of ESEA Title II, Part A services in Virginia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Carol Manitaras".

Carol Manitaras
Program Officer

cc: Darlene Derricott

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